

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 30, as follows:

This disclosure relates to an apparatus ~~and method~~ for providing an isolated ground to a horn mechanism. In an exemplary embodiment the isolated ground assembly comprises a portion of an airbag module assembly. Thus, the isolated ground assembly is secured to the airbag module prior to the airbag module being secured to the steering wheel or steering wheel armature. Alternatively, and in accordance with an alternative exemplary embodiment the isolated ground assembly is first mounted to the steering wheel or steering wheel armature prior to the driver's side airbag module being secured thereto. In this embodiment the isolated ground assembly is mounted between the driver's side airbag module and the steering wheel or alternatively the isolated ground assembly is mounted to the backside of the steering wheel or steering wheel armature.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 19, as follows:

In general, and referring now to Figures 1-12, the isolated ground assembly comprises an insulator 16 (plastic or other easily molded non-conductive material) and a wire harness 18 with contact terminals and complimentary connectors 22. The insulator can be attached either to the steering wheel armature or alternatively the airbag module as the floatinghorn mechanism. In one embodiment the insulator is attached to the side of the steering wheelarmature mounted to the airbag module or alternatively the insulator may be attached to the backside of the armature mounted to the steering wheel column.